United Nations E/C.2/1999/2/Add.11

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
11 February 1999

Original: English

Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations
1999 session
Review of quadrennial reports submitted by non-governmental organizations in general and special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council

Quadrennial reports, 1994–1997, submitted through the Secretary-General pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31

Note by the Secretary-General

Addendum

Contents

		Page
1.	International Institute for Vital Registration and Statistics	2
2.	International Organization of Indigenous Resource Development (IOIRD)	3
3.	International Social Science Council	5
4.	Islamic Relief	7
5.	National Aboriginal and Islanders Legal Services Secretariat (NAILSS)	9
6.	World Resources Institute (WRI)	11
7.	Zonta International	13
8.	Housewives in Dialogue	14

99-03601 (E) 050599

1. International Institute for Vital Registration and Statistics

(Special consultative status granted 1977)

The International Institute for Vital Registration and Statistics (IIVRS) is a non-profit non-governmental organization established in 1974 to promote the improvement of registration of births, deaths and other vital events and of the compilation of national vital statistics. The Institute is a professional association comprised of officials with national or international responsibility for civil registration or vital statistics. Membership in the IIVRS is open to appropriate national officials in the Member States of the United Nations or members of specialized agencies and to appropriate international agency personnel with similar responsibilities. The members of IIVRS are members by virtue of their profession and not as representatives of their Governments.

At the close of 1997, there were 501 national members in 187 countries and 31 international officials and technical advisers. The national members were distributed throughout the major regions of the world, as indicated (number of countries in parentheses): Africa 152 (51); North America 64 (29); South America 44 (12); Asia 133 (42); Europe 96 (38); and Oceania 32 (16). In addition, there were on the IIVRS mailing list some 250 individuals, many of them officials in state or provincial registration offices, who also receive without charge all the publications issued by IIVRS.

Collaboration with international agencies and organizations

In 1989, the IIVRS proposed the establishment of an international programme for accelerating the improvement of civil registration and vital statistics and collaborated with the Statistical Division of the United Nations in formulating the details of the programme, which entailed, *inter alia*, a series of regional workshops. The workshops were sponsored jointly by the Statistical Division, UNFPA, the World Health Organization and IIVRS. The first of the workshops was held in 1992 in Buenos Aires for the Latin American countries. It was followed by two workshops in 1993, in Beijing, for the Asian countries and in Damascus, for Western Asia.

In 1994, the African Workshop on Strategies for Accelerating the Improvement of Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Systems was held in Addis Ababa for the Anglophone countries in Africa. As in the previously and subsequently held workshops, the staff members of IIVRS prepared and presented technical papers to the Workshop and participated in the discussion of the registration problems of the region.

In 1994, the IIVRS, under contract with the Statistical Division of the United Nations, conducted a feasibility study for accelerating the improvement of civil registration and vital statistics in the Philippines. The study, a review and assessment of the feasibility of attaining the goals and objectives of the international programme in improving registration coverage and producing timely vital statistics of acceptable quality, was published by the Statistical Division. Also in 1995, IIVRS prepared a draft of a manual on organizational structure for civil registration and vital statistics for the Statistical Division. In December 1995, the last of the regional workshops on strategies for improving civil registration and vital statistics was held in Rabat for the Francophone countries of Africa. IIVRS was a co-sponsor and participant in that workshop.

In 1996, the IIVRS collaborated with the Pan American Health Organization, the regional office of the World Health Organization in the Americas, in providing technical assistance to the Government of Belize. As the first step, a survey and an evaluation study were made of the civil registration and vital statistics systems of Belize. That was followed by a site visit to Belize in 1997 which resulted in a number of recommendations for streamlining and reforming the civil registration system and for the establishment of a vital statistics system.

At the request of the Statistical Division of the United Nations, a review was made in 1997 of a draft manual on developing information, education and communication for civil registration and vital statistics. Comments and suggestions were made for changes to be made in the draft manual. Also in 1997, the Deputy Executive Director of IIVRS, under contract to the Statistical Division of the United Nations, undertook the task of revising *Principles and Recommendations for Vital Statistics Systems*.

Other activities

The workshop Building Effective Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Systems was organized jointly by IIVRS and the United States National Center for Health Statistics. After a year of planning and preparation, the training course designed for higher-level managers responsible for national civil registration and vital statistics systems was held from 14 November to 2 December 1994. The workshop was attended by 11 participants from India, the Republic of Korea, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Malaysia, Mongolia, the Philippines, Sri Lanka and the

United Republic of Tanzania. One of the greatest needs of the officials of the national civil registration and vital statistics systems is an international forum where technical and administrative problems can be discussed. IIVRS organized sessions on civil registration and vital statistics at the biennial meetings of the International Statistical Institute and at the independent sessions of the International Association.

From 1994 to 1997, the staff of IIVRS served as consultants to the United States Bureau of the Census and the United States Agency for International Development and made annual site visits to the various states in India. The observations made at those sites laid the groundwork for a programme of studies to develop methods of improving the civil registration and vital statistics systems in the state of Uttar Pradesh. It is estimated that about 7 million births and deaths occur annually in that megastate, of which only 25–30 per cent are being registered currently.

The principal means of disseminating information to the membership of IIVRS is through the newsletter, *The Chronicle*, and the technical papers. *The Chronicle* is issued from five to six times a year and gives news from the field. It also serves as a mini-report on technical issues and problems in civil registration and vital statistics. The technical papers series is comprised of reports on the various aspects of civil registration and vital statistics, including studies on the organization of the systems in various countries and the methodological problems and issues in civil registration and vital statistics. The papers are contributed by the membership and the staff of IIVRS. From four to five technical papers are published each year. In 1995, a collection of some 21 technical papers was published to commemorate the twentieth anniversary of the founding of the Institute.

2. International Organization of Indigenous Resource Development (IOIRD)

(Special consultative status granted 1989)

On 10 May 1989, the International Organization of Indigenous Resource Development was granted Category II consultative status by the Economic and Social Council. IOIRD's original aim was to promote the international interest of indigenous peoples and, in particular, the development of natural resources with protection of indigenous culture, indigenous human rights, traditional economy and protection of the environment, and the protection of indigenous treaty rights. In pursuit of its purposes, IOIRD has participated in fifty (50) United Nations conferences and meetings related to indigenous issues.

Action and cooperation by participation of IOIRD delegations in the Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or conferences and other United Nations meetings internationally, nationally and locally, where interventions on relevant agenda items were presented on behalf of our members, included the following:

1997

27–28 November, Ottawa:	Foreign affairs meeting on the United Nations Decade
27 October–7 November, Geneva:	Commission on Human Rights Inter-sessional Working Group
19–20 October, Washington:	OAS Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
24 September, Edmonton:	Treaty 6 Elders' Report on United Nations activities
10–12 September, New York:	Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
8–10 September, Ottawa:	Foreign affairs/draft declaration
24 July–7 August, Geneva:	Commission on Human Rights/Working Group on Indigenous Peoples, fifteenth session
30 June–2 July, Chile:	Second United Nations workshop on Permanent Forum
9 June, Denver:	OAS Declaration Analysis for Denver Text
22–23 May, Ottawa:	Canadian Bar Conference on Human Rights
20–21 May, Ottawa:	Assembly of First Nations/United Nations Decade plan of activities
10 May, Hobbema:	Technical Committee/ United Nations Decade report

2 May, Hobbema:	Technical Committee/OAS and United Nations Declaration report
27 April, Washington:	Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
26 April, Ottawa:	Foreign affairs/indigenous human rights
10 March–18 April, Geneva:	Commission on Human Rights, agenda item 23
11–12 February, Denver:	Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
5–6 February, Ottawa:	Foreign affairs/indigenous human rights
31 January–1 February, Washington:	Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
14–15 January, Ottawa:	Foreign affairs/indigenous human rights
1996	
13–17 November, Rome:	World Summit on Food (FAO)
21 October–1 November, Geneva:	Commission on Human Rights Inter-sessional Working Group
6 September, Hobbema:	Technical Committee/treaty study
22–27 August, Geneva:	United Nations Subcommission on Human Rights (forty-eighth session)
29 July–2 August, Geneva:	United Nations Permanent Forum/Working Group on Indigenous Peoples (fourteenth session)
5–7 July, Canary Islands:	Indigenous Rights Conference
12 June, Hobbema:	Technical Committee/ indigenous health for Working Group on Indigenous Peoples
9–10 May, Denver:	Council of Energy Resource Tribes report
7–14 April, Geneva	United Nations Working Group on Indigenous Peoples Commission on Human Rights, agenda item 23
27 February, Ottawa:	Foreign affairs/indigenous rights consultations
15 February, Ottawa:	Foreign affairs/indigenous rights consultations
29 January–2 February, Washington:	Indigenous issues/CERT
15–17 January, Copenhagen:	First United Nations Workshop on Permanent Forum
1995	
1–20 December, Geneva:	United Nations Working Group on Indigenous Peoples Commission on Human Rights
8–10 December, Edmonton:	Human Rights Conference
20 November–1 December, Geneva:	United Nations international standards
17 October, Arizona:	Navajo Nation/indigenous rights
3–4 October, Denver:	Council of Energy Resource Tribes report
20–24 September, Canary Islands:	World Congress on Rights of Indigenous Peoples
18–20 September, Geneva:	Commission on Human Rights Inter-sessional Working Group on draft declaration
17–28 July, Geneva:	United Nations Working Group on Indigenous Peoples (thirteenth session)
10 July, Denver:	Council of Energy Resource Tribes report
30 May, Hobbema:	Technical Committee International report
11–20 February, Geneva	United Nations Working Group on Indigenous Peoples

26 February, Hobbema:	Technical Committee report
16–27 January, Geneva	Commission on Human Rights
1994	
8–12 May, Mexico:	Decade action plan
20–21 April, Ottawa:	External affairs/United Nations declaration consultations
22–27 February, Geneva:	United Nations Subcommission on Human Rights
21 January, Ottawa:	Regional consultations

3. International Social Science Council

(Special consultative status granted 1985)

Introductory statement

The International Social Science Council (ISSC) has as its aim the promotion of the understanding of human society in its environment by fostering the social sciences throughout the world and their application to major contemporary problems and by enhancing cooperation by means of a global international organization of social scientists and social science organizations, encouraging multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary cooperation among its members.

Membership consists of member associations — international, non-governmental organizations which are social and behavioural scientific associations or unions representing the various social sciences, member organizations — national science councils and the corresponding sections of academies of science or analogous bodies, one per country, and regional social science organizations or councils, one per region; associate members — international, regional and national governmental and non-governmental professional organizations whose association with ISSC would offer mutual advantages for the development of the social sciences and further the aims of ISSC.

During 1995–1998 the number of member organizations increased from 5 to 17. Newly elected members represent the following countries: Brazil, Bulgaria, Cuba, Cameroon, China, Czech Republic, India, Malta, Poland, Switzerland. One new African regional organization is based in Ethiopia.

ISSC is an umbrella organization and its member associations have, in addition, individual/corporate members in different countries. Scholarly activities as well as interdisciplinary programmes are carried out by members of ISSC. At the present time they include: Comparative Research Programme on Poverty (CROP), International Human Dimensions Programme of Global Environmental Change (IHDP), Conflict Early-Warning System Research Programme (CEWS), Conceptual and Terminological Analysis (COCTA). In addition, the Senior Board of ISSC carries out activities under the "Agenda for the Millennium".

Sources of funding remain substantially the same (annual dues, contracts, subsidies), but their nature has changed since the UNESCO subvention, which had provided the majority of the funding received, was replaced by contracts under the Framework Agreement signed in 1996 for the period 1996–2001.

ISSC is a non-governmental organization in formal associate relationship with UNESCO.

ISSC representation in New York and Geneva

ISSC has representatives in New York and Geneva, and their participation in various events constituted its input to the work of the United Nations.

In Geneva, at meetings of the highest intergovernmental level, the ISSC representative made substantial interventions. The representative also attended colloquia of major interest and commemorative celebrations. The meetings related to or focused on the issues of human rights, the human genome, racial discrimination, gender, poverty, development cooperation, Palestine, social development, preservation and development of cultural life in Central and Eastern European countries, and the annual DPI/NGO conference.

In New York, the ISSC President and representative in New York attended and took part in the discussion at the special session of the Commission for Social Development on 21–23 May 1996, as follow-up to the 1995 World Summit in Copenhagen. ISSC was invited to address the Commission on the issue of participation of the poor in civil society.

Close cooperation with UNESCO

Until 1995 ISSC received an annual subvention, which was partly redistributed among 14 member associations which represented different social science disciplines. The funds were used to support the infrastructure of those

associations and the Council as well as different scholarly activities in line with the aims and objectives of UNESCO.

Since 1996, the funds received from the central administration of UNESCO in Paris and from its field offices (Bangkok, Buenos Aires, Dakar, Port-au-Prince, Tunisia) have been used to support specific projects only. Their selection and approval is preceded by negotiations with funders. During the last biennium, 1996–1997, 63 projects were carried out, partly supported by UNESCO funds.

The projects included:

(a) International Conference on Political Dimensions of Economic Growth and Institutional Foundation of Economic Development in East Asia, organized by the International Economic Association and held in Tokyo;

(b) Research project on the social integration of regimes in transition, organized by the International Federation of Social Science Organizations (IFSSO), presented at a conference at the IFSSO General Conference in Phitsanulok, Thailand;

(c) Workshop on Youth, Violence, and Conflict Resolution in Southern Africa, organized by the International Union of Psychological Science;

(d) International Seminar on Female Empowerment and Demographic Processes: Moving Beyond Cairo, organized by the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population (IUSSP) and held in Lund, Sweden;

(e) Survey on 1,000 Palestine youths living in Gaza organized by the World Federation for Mental Health (WFMH);

(f) International Symposium on Urban Partnerships, organized by ISSC jointly with UNESCO's Management of Social Transformation (MOST) programme, held in Paris;

(g) Workshops on the Social Cost of Poverty, held in Bergen, Norway, and on Human Rights as an Instrument for the Eradication of Extreme Poverty, held in Santiago, Chile; both organized by the ISSC CROP programme;

(h) International symposia in the programme Agenda for the Millennium were organized by the Senior Board of ISSC in Rio de Janeiro. The topics included cultural pluralism, representativity and complexity, ethics of the future;

(i) Research project on protection of the human genome, entrusted to the International Association of Legal Science by the UNESCO International Bioethics Committee.

Annual reports on all ISSC activities and audited financial reports are regularly submitted to UNESCO.

ISSC purchases and distributes throughout its community the *International Social Science Journal*, published by UNESCO. The quarterly *Newsletter* of ISSC is distributed as an insert in the *Journal*.

The Council, its interdisciplinary programmes and its members publish a vast array of serials and monographs. Some titles:

The Role of NGOs in Economic Development; *The Public Servant in an Age of Transition*; *International Political Science Abstracts*; *Advances in Political Science*; *Current Sociology*; *Sage Studies in International Sociology*; *International Journal of Psychology*; *Current Anthropology*; *Applied Psychology*; *Female Empowerment and Demographic Processes: Moving Beyond Cairo*; papers at the Arab Regional Population Conference; *Poverty and Participation in Civil Society*; *Cultural Pluralism, Identity and Globalization*; *Issues in Global Change Research: Problems, Data and Programme*; *Land Use and Global Land-cover Change*.

Other relevant activities

At the invitation of the United Nations Staff College, CROP organized a two-week course on poverty held in Turin, Italy, in 1997 for the senior headquarters staff of United Nations agencies, voluntary organizations, representatives of bilateral agencies and core people from the private sector. Within the context of the International Year for the Eradication of Poverty, the book *Poverty. A Global Review, Handbook on International Poverty Research*, a co-publication of UNESCO and ISSC, was launched.

During the World Summit on Social Development in 1995, CROP organized with UNESCO a Round Table on Poverty and Participation in Civil Society. It addressed the complex issue of different strategies leading to increased civil participation among the poor.

In 1992, in implementation of the Agenda for Peace, the ISSC General Assembly established the Conflict Early-Warning Systems Research Programme as an appropriate response to the United Nations call for assistance from non-governmental organizations in conflict management and the promotion of the use of preventive diplomacy. The programme is developing, carrying out and making publicly available the results of an international set of analytically and practically suggestive case studies of conflict prevention successes and failures.

The International Law Association, one of ISSC's member associations, made its first report, "The United

Nations human rights treaties: facing the implementation crisis", which studies the United Nations treaty bodies' role in the enforcement of conventional human rights law, reparations for human rights violations in national and international forums, international and national aspects of enforcing United Nations sanctions for human rights purposes, and implementation of the principle of universal jurisdiction in connection with gross human rights violations.

4. Islamic Relief

(Special consultative status granted 1993)

Introduction

Islamic Relief is an international relief and development organization dedicated to alleviating the poverty and suffering of the poor, refugees and victims of disasters, irrespective of their race, creed, or origin. The organization endeavours to achieve its aims through the implementation of emergency relief, rehabilitation and development projects such as the provision of food, shelter, water, sanitation, medical supplies, education, health, nutrition, vocational training, and income generation. During the years 1994–1997 people in over 30 countries, in Asia, Africa and Europe, have benefitted from Islamic Relief projects.

Islamic Relief has fund-raising offices registered in eight countries — United Kingdom, United States of America, Belgium, France, Germany, Holland, Sweden and Switzerland. The geographical membership consists of one institution in each of the following countries: Mali, Sudan, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Kazakhstan, Albania, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States of America. The organization has no relationship with any Government bearing on its management or the orientation of its activities. However, the organization may accept donations or services from governmental agencies wishing to support certain projects. For example, the Overseas Development Administration (ODA), now called Department of International Development (DFID) of the United Kingdom has financially supported Islamic Relief's development projects in Sudan, and the British Embassy in Bosnia made a financial donation to support the organization's medical aid appliances project in Bosnia.

Participation in United Nations conferences and meetings

Islamic Relief was represented at the third session of the Preparatory Committee of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (New York, 5–16 February 1996). It also participated in the Conference itself (Habitat II) (Turkey, June 1996).

Cooperation with United Nations programmes, bodies and specialized agencies

In Bangladesh, the organization conducted a number of successful projects with the cooperation of UNICEF. The projects include:

(a) Mother and Child Health Care Centre, 1996–1997 ($10,000 annual budget). During the two-year period, UNICEF supported the project by providing vaccine, through the Ministry of Health, and a feeding mixture to children who suffer from malnutrition;

(b) Outpatient Centre, 1996–1997 ($53,000 annual budget). UNICEF supported the centre's vaccination programme, which benefited 473 children;

(c) Facts For Life project, 1997–present. UNICEF is developing a booklet to target teaching groups that can deliver various types of messages to the masses. Islamic Relief is the facilitator between UNICEF and the teaching groups. The total budget for this project will be $25,500 of which $23,158 will be paid by UNICEF.

In Sudan, UNICEF supported the organization's projects, such as the Mother and Child Health Care and Feeding Centre in El Obeid, 1994–1997, by providing vaccines, vitamin A, rehydration salts and Unimix for children who suffer from malnutrition. The Centre is part of a community and training project, with an annual budget of $200,000, which was partly funded by the ODA. The Vocational Training Programme and the Adult Literacy Programme, 1996–1997, were also supported by WFP, through its Food For Work scheme. Through the same scheme, during 1997, WFP supported a water and sanitation project in El Obeid, where 10 hand-dug wells were built. To enable further development of the project, the organization applied to UNDP to fund the Community and Training Centre in El Obeid. UNDP had previously, in 1995, provided an evaluation of the vocational training programme.

During the war in the former Yugoslavia, Islamic Relief conducted significant projects/activities in Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina with the cooperation of UNHCR and UNPROFOR. Islamic Relief was, and still is, regularly attending meetings called by United Nations bodies

in the region. Between 1995–1996, all Islamic Relief vehicles were registered at the UNHCR office and carried United Nations number plates to ensure smooth delivery of relief. Islamic Relief staff carried United Nations blue identification cards.

The main projects which Islamic Relief implemented with UNHCR are:

(a) Gunja project in Croatia, 1994–1995 ($142,000 budget). This agricultural and livestock farming project, which benefited Bosniar refugees and their host community in Gunja, was funded by UNHCR and other agencies such as the European Commission, Catholic Aid for Overseas Development (CAFOD), OXFAM, Trocaire, Portsmouth Diocesan Refugee Aid and Christian Aid;

(b) School kit distribution, Tuzla, August 1994. This project was carried out with cooperation from UNHCR and the Red Cross;

(c) Food transportation operation, October–December 1994 ($3,500 budget). UNPROFOR helped Islamic Relief by transporting supplies of food from Zaghreb to the organization's warehouse in Tuzla;

(d) School meal project in Tuzla, Croatia, 1994–1995 ($140,000 budget). UNHCR supported this project by providing flour and sugar, which were used to prepare bread and jam to feed children;

(e) Srebrenica refugees, July–August 1995 ($118,000 budget). Islamic Relief carried out a large operation to fulfil the needs of thousands of Bosnian refugees from Zepa and Srebrenica and to provide them with care and transportation to Tuzla Airport. During the course of the operation, UNHCR provided tents, food and medicines, and UNPROFOR provided security;

(f) Reconstruction of the BANOVICI centre for the displaced people near Tuzla, Croatia, September–November 1995 ($48,000 budget). UNHCR supported this project by providing 120 beds;

(g) Provision of health care to the Bosnian refugees in Islamic Relief centres in Tuzla and its suburbs, 1994–1995 ($223,500 budget). Health care was provided by UNHCR and protection was given by UNPROFOR in Dzurozevik, near Tuzla, in Croatia.

In 1997, Islamic Relief officers in Mali agreed upon a plan with UNHCR officers to assist the reintegration of repatriates and displaced people, in Gourma-Rhavous in northern Mali. UNHCR agreed to contribute $193,763 towards the cost of the project, $257,863. Islamic Relief officers in Mali also conducted similar meetings with WFP representatives to improve cooperation on the ground.

During the Rwanda/Burundi crises of 1994, Islamic Relief sent a fleet of trucks that included a 16-ton lorry, four cargo flat-bed trucks, and two 6,000-litre water tanks, together with detergents, disinfectants and spares to UNHCR. UNHCR paid all transportation costs ($42,857), from Antwerp, Belgium, to Mombassa, Kenya. Dutch Inter-Church Aid helped in funding other logistical costs as well as six months of operational costs. The total cost of the project was $187,428.

During the crises in the African Great Lakes region (November–December 1996), Islamic Relief joined the international community in its efforts to help the civilians caught between battles. In the United Republic of Tanzania, UNHCR coordinated the transportation of an Islamic Relief representative from Mwanza to Ngara, for an assessment of needs and for the distribution of some urgently needed relief supplies.

Other relevant activities with the United Nations

The organization made two requests to the United Nations through the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, in 1997, to be authorized to export medical supplies to Iraq, at a cost of $350,000. Both requests were approved.

In 1997 the organization submitted information on its operational capacity, in the form of a questionnaire, to the UNHCR/Geneva office, at its request.

In 1997 the organization sought WHO advice about the tuberculosis situation in Chechnya, in order to market a proposal for the treatment of its victims in the area.

Islamic Relief participated in two cultural events in Belgium, organized by UNICEF — namely, Child Day (April 1996) and Women's Day (October 1996).

In 1997, Islamic Relief became a member of the Conference of NGOs in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council (CONGO) and intends to participate in the efforts that CONGO is making to strengthen the role of non-governmental organizations in the framework of their partnership with the United Nations.

5. National Aboriginal and Islanders Legal Services Secretariat (NAILSS)

(Special consultative status granted 1985)

Aims and purposes of the organization

The aims and purposes are the following: coordination and assistance for the operations of community-based indigenous legal services across Australia; implementation of the recommendations of the Royal Commission into aboriginal deaths in custody in Australia; provision of legal assistance advice and court representation on matters of national and international legal significance referred from community-based legal services; lobbying of state and federal and international governments and agencies on reform and amendment of laws and regulations detrimental to or discriminatory of indigenous peoples or contrary to international legal or human rights principles; assistance and cooperation with groups or agencies representing peoples of any race on reform of laws of discriminatory or anti-human rights nature; provision of legal advice and representation to indigenous peoples who wish to claim traditional lands or legal rights under native title or any other land rights laws; representation of indigenous persons in legal actions against discrimination, racism or failure to provide equal opportunities in employment; consultations on issues of national, regional and international criminal justice and imprisonment of indigenous or other peoples having regard to human rights and other legal standards or instruments; lobbying to seek recognition, politically and legally, for the rights of indigenous peoples at the state, national and international levels; promotion of the principles of natural justice, fair and equal treatment under criminal justice systems, and protection of human rights.

Membership

NAILSS consists of individual members currently but is shortly awaiting formal rule changes which will change its membership criteria to regional indigenous legal service organizations. Geographic coverage of membership includes the whole of Australia, its territories and dependencies, and is open to adult aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander persons.

Participation in United Nations or other international activities

26–28 April 1995	Global Cultural Diversity Conference, Sydney, Australia
12–24 June 1995	Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations, New York
26–29 June 1995	First United Nations Workshop on a Permanent Forum for Indigenous Peoples, Copenhagen, Denmark
17–28 July 1995	Working Group on Indigenous Populations ((Thirteenth session), Geneva, Switzerland)
26–29 October 1995	Meeting on a Permanent Forum; Commission on Human Rights, Open-ended Working Group for the Elaboration of a Text for a Draft Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, Caracao, Peru
20 November– 1 December 1995	Commission on Human Rights, Open-ended Working Group for the Elaboration of a Text for a Draft Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (first session), Geneva (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission (ATSIC) in attendance, in lieu of NAILSS)
6–19 January 1996	Open-ended Committee on Review of Arrangements for Consultative NGOs, New York
11 January 1996	Submission of NAILSS complaint under ICCPR on Deaths in Custody in Australia to New York Office of Centre for Human Rights
29 July–2 August 1996	Working Group on Indigenous Populations (Fourteenth session), Geneva
21 October– 4 November 1996	Open-ended Working Group for the Elaboration of a Text for a Draft Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (second session), Geneva
28 June–3 July 1997	Second United Nations Workshop on a Permanent Forum for Indigenous Peoples, Santiago, Chile
28 July–2 August 1997	Working Group on Indigenous Populations (Fifteenth session); Twentieth anniversary of Indigenous Peoples in the United Nations, Geneva

November 1997	Open-ended Working Group for the Elaboration of a Text for a Draft Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (third session), Geneva
24–28 November 1997	United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity, Workshop on Traditional and Indigenous Knowledge, Madrid, Spain
25–26 March 1998	Commission on Human Rights (fifty-fourth session), item 23, Indigenous issues; NAILSS funding from ATSIC to attend suspended by direction to ATSIC from Australian Aboriginal Affairs Minister on allegations that indigenous groups going overseas were criticizing Australian federal Government. NAILSS did *not* attend.

Cooperation with the United Nations programmes etc. and other relevant activities

23–27 January 1995	National Conference convened by NAILSS on issues and perspectives facing indigenous peoples in the twenty-first century
3 February 1995	Negotiation meeting and inspection of juvenile detention facilities in northern Australian correctional departments having regard to United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for Treatment of Prisoners and the Beijing Rules for Treatment of Juveniles in Detention
17 February 1995	Provision of evidence to Australian Senate Select Committee regarding racial vilification laws in Australia and protections in law for indigenous and ethnic minorities in Australian region
13 March 1995	Regional meeting on development of indigenous youth programme for indigenous boys camp to divert young offenders from custody
21 March 1995	Meeting with president of Childrens' Court of Queensland on initiatives for diversion of juveniles from custody
August 1995	Provision of delegation to Australian Human Rights Commission seminar on racial discrimination, Sydney
5 September 1995	Seminar on indigenous housing and women's issues, Brisbane
7 September 1995	Meeting of Committee of Multi-Cultural Interests with Attorney General on increases in racial violence in Australia
12 September 1995	National indigenous peoples organizations meeting, Canberra, on United Nations programmes and international activities
5 October 1995	Attendance at National Advisory Committee on implementation of Indigenous Decade, Sydney
24 February 1996	Discussions with Philippines Embassy regarding global indigenous cultural olympics summit for peace and sustainable development, Manila
24 May 1996	Conference with health departments on deaths in custody in health and mental health institutions in Australia
21 June 1996	Provision of evidence by NAILSS to Senate Select Committee on amendment of ATSIC legislation warning of dangers to ATSIC regarding any attempt by Government to restrict ATSIC in its role as non-governmental organization within the United Nations
3 July 1996	Meeting with International Law Association representative, Brisbane

25 November 1996	Meeting with Sydney Organising Committee for Olympic Games on indigenous participation and on lack of indigenous persons at higher management levels in Australian Olympic Games structure
5 December 1996	NAILSS attendance at Domestic Human Rights Forum, Parliament House, Canberra
14 February 1997	Participation by NAILSS in multimedia project regarding indigenous peoples for students
18–19 February 1997	Indigenous Peoples Summit on Deaths in Custody, Canberra
1–2 May 1997	Ministerial Summit on Australian Deaths in Custody, Canberra
15 June 1997	Meeting with delegate from United States National Bar Association for development of cooperation and assistance agreement
10 July 1997	Provision of lectures for international judges and magistrates on the adversarial system and advocacy
29 August 1997	NGO National Forum on Human Rights, Parliament House, Canberra
21–22 November 1997	NAILSS hosting delegation with ATSIC of Joint Parliamentary Committee from South Africa on land tenure reform and advising on native title and land rights laws in Australia and arranging visit to aboriginal autonomous community
17 December 1997	Meeting with Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade on outcomes of the Working Group of the Commission on Human Rights and reasons for change of Australian Government position away from support for proposals of indigenous peoples
March 1998	Meetings with Canadian Indigenous Bar Association and with Ministers for Justice and for Immigration for Norfolk Island, regarding hunting/fishing rights and impact of restrictions by Australian Government on Norfolk Islanders due to possible oil find off Norfolk Island and request for assistance to NAILSS from Parliament of Norfolk Island on application for membership in the United Nations as a Member State.

6. World Resources Institute (WRI)

(Special consultative status granted 1989)

Introductory statement

The World Resources Institute (WRI) is an independent research and policy institute created in 1982 with a mission of moving human society to live in ways that protect Earth's environment and its capacity to provide for the needs and aspirations of current and future generations. Because people are inspired by ideas, empowered by knowledge, and moved to change by greater understanding, WRI provides — and helps other institutions provide — objective information and practical proposals for policy and institutional change that will foster environmentally sound, socially equitable development. The Institute focuses its work on four basic themes: (1) Biological resource stewardship; (2) Atmospheric protection; (3) Sustainable enterprise; and (4) Sustainable development paths. WRI is a private, not-for-profit corporation that receives financial support from foundations, governmental and intergovernmental institutions, private corporations, and concerned individuals.

Participation in United Nations meetings

One or more WRI representatives attended the following meetings of the United Nations:

4 April 1994	Copenhagen	World Social Summit
4 April 1994	New York	Commission on Sustainable Development

5 September 1994	Cairo	International Conference on Population and Development
26 November 1994	Bahamas	Convention on Biological Diversity, Conference of the Parties
7 November 1995	Jakarta	Convention on Biological Diversity, Conference of the Parties
1 June 1996	Turkey	United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)
30 March 1997	Kyoto	Framework Convention on Climate Change, Conference of the Parties
15 April 1997	New York	Commission on Sustainable Development
16 June 1997	Zimbabwe	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species
1 September 1997	Montreal	Convention on Biological Diversity, Subsidiary Body on Science Technology, and Technology Advice

Cooperation with United Nations programmes and bodies and specialized agencies

World Resources Institute has cooperated extensively with several United Nations agencies throughout the past four years. The Institute has worked especially closely with UNEP on the widely recognized Global Biodiversity Assessment; the Global Environmental Outlook; and, in collaboration with the World Bank and UNDP, on two editions of the *World Resources Report*. In addition, WRI has worked extensively with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to develop policy tools for promoting sustainable agriculture.

Other relevant activities

World Resources Institute has been particularly active in working to advance implementation of United Nations resolutions related to the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Framework Convention on Climate Change.

To more directly help countries prepare national strategies and action plans needed to implement the Convention on Biological Diversity, WRI published *National Biodiversity Planning: Guidelines Based on Early Experiences Around the World* (English, Spanish, French). The 1995 study — a collaborative effort by WRI, the International Union for the Conservation of Nature, and UNEP — was launched at the second biodiversity Conference of the Parties in Jakarta, Indonesia. This resource is still being used by United Nations agencies to develop training workshops for national biodiversity planners throughout the world. Other WRI efforts to advance implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity include the study of bioregional management and the design and implementation of decentralization processes, as part of national biodiversity strategies. These ideas were put forth in the 1995 paper *Decentralization and the Capacity to Manage Biodiversity* (English, Spanish). WRI has also been very active in developing policy options for implementation of articles in the Convention on Biological Diversity related specifically to forests, agriculture, and marine resources. In 1997, the Institute launched its Forest Frontiers Initiative with the publication of the widely known *The Last Frontier Forests* (English, Spanish, French, Russian), the first scientific assessment to depict the extent of human impacts on global forests, using Global Information Systems technology. Finally, throughout the past four years WRI, in cooperation with UNEP and the International Union for the Conservation of Nature, has continued to host the Global Biodiversity Forum in conjunction with meetings of the Convention on Biological Diversity. The Forum allows Governments, non-governmental organizations, communities, scientists, natural resource managers, and others to guide and influence international decisions concerning biodiversity. The Forum has evolved into a strategic process that provides information and generates debate on critical issues which feed directly into the Convention process.

During the past four years, the World Resources Institute has also been at the forefront of studying the science of climate change, thinking creatively about climate policy, and promoting economically sound solutions to the world's policy makers and opinion leaders. In 1996, the Institute formed an interdisciplinary team to define a vision and strategy to advance the climate protection debate and implement the resolutions of the Framework Convention on Climate Change. WRI's Climate Protection Initiative has focused on several of the key issues faced by the parties to the Convention and, beginning with the 1997 publication, *The Costs of Climate Protection* (English), has continued to debunk the myths and cut through the confusion generated by the climate debate.

Beyond the Institute's work to advance the resolutions of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Framework Convention on Climate Change, WRI has received financial support from United Nations agencies over the past four years to fund projects like the Global Biodiversity Assessment ($200,000, UNEP), the 1996–1997 and 1998–1999 *World Resources Report* ($600,000 and $400,000, respectively, UNEP), Building Partnerships for Safe and Sustainable Agriculture ($15,000, FAO), and Natural Resource Information Monitoring ($50,000, United Nations Office for Project Services). In addition, WRI staff have worked closely with other United Nations agencies and officials over the past four years. These WRI-sponsored activities include:

25 February 1994	NGO briefing for James Gustave Speth, Administrator, UNDP
4 April 1994	Commission on Sustainable Development, briefing for *Second India*, New York
5 April 1994	Commission on Sustainable Development, briefing for *World Resources Report*, New York
26 November 1994	WRI/International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN)/UNEP, Global Biodiversity Forum, Bahamas
14 December 1994	Briefing with Wally N'Dow, Secretary-General of Habitat II, on urban environmental issues and the private sector, Washington, D.C.
15 June 1995	WRI/UNEP/International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) press event at Biodiversity Convention, Conference of the Parties, Jakarta
25 October 1995	WRI/IUCN, briefing on UNEP for Washington, D.C. NGO community
6 February 1996	WRI/Habitat II secretariat/UNDP, panel discussion on the Habitat Agenda: critical dimensions, New York
14 March 1996	WRI/Union of Concerned Scientists, briefing for Sir John Houghton, Chairman of the Scientific Assessment Working Group of IPCC
15 April 1996	WRI briefing for the Commission on Sustainable Development on report "Materials flows"
19 April 1996	WRI/UNEP/UNDP, panel at Habitat II meeting on urban issues, Turkey
26 April 1996	Jonathan Lash, WRI President, presentation to the Commission on Sustainable Development on President's Council on sustainable development report
1–4 September 1997	WRI briefings at the Biodiversity Convention, SBSTTA (Subsidiary Body on Science Technology, and Technology Advice), Montreal

7. Zonta International

(General consultative status granted 1969)

Zonta International is a worldwide service organization of executives in business and the professions working to improve the legal, political, economic and professional status of women. Geographical membership has increased, with the following additions: Latvia, Paraguay (1993); Croatia, Monaco (1994); Cyprus, Lithuania (1995); Malaysia, South Africa (1996); Ukraine (1997).

Zonta International has long-standing consultative status with the Economic and Social Council. It observes Council sessions as well as those of UNESCO, UNICEF, ILO, INSTRAW, UNIFEM and the Council of Europe, and bodies of bodies in which women's issues are discussed — the Commission on the Status of Women, the Second and Third Committees of the General Assembly, the Conference of NGOs in Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council (CONGO), the DPI/NGO annual conference, the Commission on Social Development, the Commission on Sustainable Development and CEDAW. It has made statements on education and training of women, the family, follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women, UNIFEM and preparations for the Fourth World Conference on Women.

Zonta International's 11 observer representatives are active in Geneva, New York, Paris, Vienna and the Council of Europe in the work and statements of non-governmental organizations for aging, CONGO, education, environment, the family, the girl child, health, human rights, peace,

peaceful uses of outer space, population, UNIFEM, the status of women, and violence against women and youth.

In New York, from September to June, weekly briefings given by the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat are attended by Zonta International which reports to Zonta clubs and Zonta International committees information on the United Nations work to advance the status of women and encourages local club participation in United Nations-related or United Nations-sponsored activities.

In Paris, at UNESCO, a representative of Zonta International is in the office of the Collective Consultation of NGOs on Literacy and Education for All. In Geneva, Zonta's representatives attend sessions of the Commission on Human Rights, the Economic and Social Council and ILO as well as relevant non-governmental organization meetings. In Vienna, the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space knows about the Amelia Earhart Fellowships, 25–30 a year, for advanced aerospace and engineering study. The sessions of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice are attended by Zonta representatives. In Strasburg, Zonta regularly attends meetings of Council of Europe.

Zonta International was represented at such special events as the World Food Summit (Rome, November 1996); the Global Summit of Women (Miami, 1997); the International Conference on Population and Development (Cairo, 1994); the World Summit for Social Development (Copenhagen, 1995); all four world conferences on women, including the one in Beijing (1995); UNESCO's Fifth International Conference on Adult Education (Hamburg, Germany, 1997); the special session of the General Assembly on implementation of Agenda 21 (1997); the first informal consultation of CEDAW with non-governmental organizations (1997); and expert group meetings of the Division for the Advancement of Women in preparation for sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women, on women and the economy (Boston, 1997), vocational training and lifelong training of women (Turin, 1997), and women's enjoyment of economic and social rights (Turku, Finland, 1997).

International years require special attention for all Zonta clubs, and celebration of United Nations Days — 8 March, United Nations Day for Women's Rights; 7 April, World Health Day; 5 June, World Environment Day; 26 June, International Day against Drug Abuse; 8 September, International Literacy Day; 24 October, United Nations Day; and 10 December, Human Rights Day.

Since 1990 Zonta has contributed more than $600,000 to support the joint UNIFEM/UNICEF Gender, Women and Development project in Central America. The project seeks to address the strategic gender needs of women in an integrated effort to strengthen action towards ensuring equity between the sexes and increasing women's egalitarian participation in the process and benefits of development. Contributions from 1986 to 1996 reached over $1 million, for projects in Argentina, Bangladesh, Botswana, Brazil, Chile, Comoros, Egypt, Ghana, Guatemala, India, Mexico, Nigeria, the Philippines, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Togo, Uruguay and Zimbabwe (UNIFEM, UNICEF, INSTRAW, UNESCO).

From 1996 to 1998 Zonta took part in the projects Education of the Girl Child in South Africa (UNICEF) and Zonta International Strategies to Eradicate Violence Against Women and Children (worldwide).

Through its projects and programmes, Zonta International seeks to implement the themes of the United Nations decades and years. During 1990–1993 Zonta emphasized economic development, training, education and literacy programmes to improve the status of women and their families. In 1994–1996 Zonta International programme goals included dynamic participation in the United Nations programmes, affiliation with the World Health Organization and participation in the Fourth World Conference on Women. In 1996–1998 its programme goals included Furthering the vision of the founders to advance the status of women, in all of its dimensions, including human rights, health issues and internationalism/multiculturalism; and promoting a unified purpose and direction to ensure that Zonta International remains an international organization by addressing global concerns and issues with a single voice and a combined effort.

8. Housewives in Dialogue*

(Special status granted 1985)

Housewives in Dialogue (HinD) is an educational charity established to advance the education of the public through research into race and community relations, with particular reference to women, and by the publication of such research. The organization focuses on women in their capacity as unwaged workers in the family and the

* New name: Women in Dialogue (WinD), as registered in February 1999. All other details about the organization remain the same.

community, and on race and community relations as a major part of women's unwaged work. HinD promotes and carries out research; maintains a reference library and archives; publishes books, articles, pamphlets and audio-visual materials; organizes meetings, seminars, workshops, exhibitions; runs the Crossroads Women's Centre in London, which serves as a base for continuous dialogue among women of different ethnic and social backgrounds; exchanges information with individuals and with women's organizations nationally and internationally. Since the organization's report in 1993, HinD has further advanced its communications with women and women's organizations in Barbados, Brazil, Canada, Guyana, India, Ireland, Italy, Peru, United Republic of Tanzania, Spain, Switzerland, Trinidad and Tobago, and the United States of America.

HinD's sources of funding during 1994–1997 are: donations; publication sales; grants from private trusts; fund-raising events such as benefits and bazaars; payments for using the facilities of the Women's Centre.

Participation in the Economic and Social Council, its subsidiary bodies and/or conferences; other United Nations meetings

Representatives of HinD participated in the following:

(a) 1994, 10–14 January: Inter-sessional meeting of the Commission on the Status of Women, New York. HinD presented a statement summarizing key United Nations developments since 1985 which recognize the value and importance of women's unremunerated work, and from grass-roots women's points of view, the priority of making a decision to advance this issue at the (then) forthcoming Fourth World Conference on Women. HinD circulated relevant amendments to the draft platform for action (E/CN.6/WG/1994/CRP.1);

(b) 1994, 2 March: NGO/ECE Working Group of the NGO Committee on the Status of Women, New York;

(c) 1994, 3–4 March: NGO consultation "Changing forums in a changing world", New York;

(d) 1994, 7–18 March. Thirty-eighth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, New York. HinD presented a statement on landmark dates, key statistics and other facts related to issues of women's work;

(e) 1994, 13–15 October: NGO Forum, Vienna;

(f) 1994, 17–21 October: ECE High-level Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Fourth World Conference on Women, Vienna. HinD circulated amendments to the draft regional platform for action, "Women in a changing world: call for action from an ECE perspective" (E/ECE/RW/HLM/CRP.2); addressed the plenary and circulated a briefing pack for delegates on the relevance of recognizing unwaged work for those women in Europe and North America who are most vulnerable to economic crisis;

(g) 1995, 16–27 January: Third session of the Preparatory Committee for the World Summit for Social Development, New York;

(h) 1995, 6–12 March: World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, Denmark. Circulated a briefing for delegates which addressed key concerns about the measurement and valuing of unwaged work in satellite accounts of the GDP as they related to the draft programme of action, and participated in NGO workshops discussing the issues;

(i) 1995, 13–14 March: NGO Consultation to prepare for the thirty-ninth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, New York;

(j) 1995, 15 March–5 April: Thirty-ninth session of the Commission on the Status of Women. HinD conveyed the concerns of non-governmental organizations on the urgency of counting women's unwaged work, and circulated amendments to the draft platform for action (/CN.6/1995/2/WG/IV.H);

(k) 1995, 30 August–8 September: NGO Forum on Women '95, Huairou, China. HinD held a workshop, Valuing Women's Work: Waged and Unwaged: Technical and Methodological Implications;

(l) 1995, 4–15 September: Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, China. HinD's address to the plenary session highlighted the issue of counting unwaged work which had the support of 1,200 non-governmental organizations representing millions of women, north and south;

(m) 1996: fortieth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, New York. HinD's statement highlighted the issues of poverty and unwaged work in order, for example, to provide a more accurate and comprehensive measure of poverty by uncovering the disparity between women's contribution and what women receive by way of remuneration;

(n) 1997, 10–21 March: forty-first session of the Commission on the Status of Women, New York. HinD's statement discussed the relevance of implementing the Beijing decisions on reducing women's workload and poverty.

HinD's cooperation with United Nations programmes and bodies and specialized agencies

(a) 1994–97: member of the NGO Working Group on Women (ECE region), the NGO Planning Committee for Forum '95, and the NGO Committee on the Status of Women;

(b) 1994, 26 October: invited to address public meeting, Women Working Waged and Unwaged in Europe, part of four weeks of action in the United Kingdom to prepare for the Fourth World Conference on Women;

(c) 1995, April to June: HinD organized a series of three public forums, On the Road to Beijing, to highlight and discuss the concerns which grass-roots women would be taking to the Fourth World Conference on Women, to brief women on the preparations for the Conference, and to report back on the thirty-ninth session of the Commission;

(d) Contributed to and circulated the publication, *The Global Kitchen*, a compilation of documents published for the Beijing Conference, including an update of the organization's expert evidence first presented to the World Conference on Women in Nairobi in 1985; statements in women's own words describing their unwaged work as housewives, community organizers, domestic workers, women with disabilities etc.; an evaluation of existing methods for measuring and valuing unwaged work, the problems they pose and some proposals for how these problems may be overcome; a paper by a grass-roots community organizer on the effects of structural adjustment policies on women's workload in the West Indies; and facts from the 1995 UNDP *Human Development Report*. The publication is a rich educational tool and proved of great interest to both non-governmental organizations and governmental delegates;

(e) Fundraised to enable grass-roots women from India, the United Republic of Tanzania, Trinidad and Tobago and the United Kingdom to attend the Conference in Beijing.

Other relevant activities: (i) action in implementation of United Nations resolutions

HinD has circulated information relevant to implementation of the Platform for Action (DPI/1766/WOM), which says that women's and men's unremunerated work should be measured and valued in satellite accounts of the GDP, and of Agenda 21, highlighting the relationship between sustainable development and unwaged work. To this end HinD has:

(a) Circulated key paragraphs from the Platform for Action and Agenda 21, and related United Nations publications such as reports by UNDP and INSTRAW;

(b) Provided information to the public and reported to women's networks and organizations on the follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women;

(c) Monitored progress on the implementation of the Platform for Action and Agenda 21 at United Nations, government and grass-roots levels internationally;

(d) Served as a resource for a status report on related and regional developments following the Fourth World Conference on Women, prepared for the CARICOM secretariat;

(e) Produced fact sheets on Black, immigrant and refugee women, single mothers, women's poverty, and housework, and bibliographies of reference materials on women's unremunerated work for use in multicultural academic programmes;

(f) Carried out research and consultation on methodologies for measuring and valuing women's, children's and men's unremunerated work; the impact of cuts in welfare and social services on women's unwaged workload and their relation to sustainable development; the double/triple day for women North and South in the context of globalization; women's experience and views on the use of solar cookers;

(g) Run a women's centre in new premises with much improved facilities where women can readily get information on the follow-up to United Nations conferences and can participate in ongoing follow-up work.